



BUILDING A SYSTEM OF CARE

Overview:

Wraparound Oregon is an initiative to build a coordinated system of services and supports for children and youth with complex mental health needs who are involved in multiple systems such as child welfare, juvenile justice, mental health and special education. This community-owned effort, based in Multnomah County, is building capacity to more effectively use existing resources to serve the highest need, most costly children and their families by designing and implementing a decision-making and oversight governing body.



Progress:

In its third year of operations, Wraparound Oregon has made significant inroads, such as:

- Launching two pilot projects – one for school-age children and youth (capacity of 50/year) and one for children birth to eight (capacity 100/year). The pilot projects “inform” the system of care development.

- Ensuring buy-in and commitment from major child serving systems through Inter-agency Agreement and consistent dedication to the development and implementation of the system of care.
- Providing cross-system training on the wraparound process and system of care values to a broad range of community stakeholders.
- Sharing information and monitoring quality through a web-based management information system that can be accessed by all partners.
- Monitoring system and service outcomes through a system and service evaluation.
- Working closely with the governor’s office and state agency leaders to develop an integrated financing structure for Oregon.
- Enlisting the support of major national and local foundations.
- Involving families and youth in decision making at the policy, program and individual case levels.



“It’s about time someone listened to me about what I want and need to make a difference: this is my plan.” WO youth



Benefits:

- Youth reporting satisfaction with their involvement in case planning.
- Reduced psychiatric residential treatment or hospitalization stays.
- Fewer foster care transitions.
- Less extended use of detention facilities.
- Fewer highly restrictive educational settings.
- Better transitions for children entering school.
- Children served in less restrictive placements.
- Greater family participation and satisfaction.
- Increased collaboration among child serving agencies.

Referrals:

For children birth to 8, call (503) 267-6208.

For children 7-18, call (503) 267-6208.

For more information about Wraparound Oregon, go to www.wraparoundoregon.org or email Alice Galloway at galloway@northwest.com. ♦